LGBT Children in the State Care: Evidence from the Interviews to the Children’s Home

SHIRAI Chiaki

Based on the results of the “interviews with staffs about sexual minorities (LGBT) in children’s homes” conducted from 2017 to 2018 by the survey team where the author is a member, this article examines state care issues within institutional care.

Using data from interviews with the staff of children’s homes, we analyzed the issues surrounding the acceptance of sexual minority youth in state care. The results indicate that staff believe that it is necessary to organize living spaces around the notions that incest taboos are not effective in institutional care situations, that certain backgrounds are unique to out-of-home children, and that problems arise from the fact that caregivers are not person in parental authority.

The author also found that the staffs have motivations to pursue “hidden curriculum” on gender and sexuality. As it is said in other countries, it is necessary to care for each sexual minority child individually. Respect for individuality creates a rearing environment that is desirable in the care of all children.